

Topic Areas

*YRBS Results
Lancaster County, NE*

The Youth Risk Behavior Survey includes several questions within each major topic area of youth risk behaviors. Each question is an “indicator” that helps to measure a different aspect of a youth risk behavior. The subject matter, wording and sequence of the questions have been developed and used in the Youth Risk Behavior Survey for a decade. From time to time some questions have been added or subtracted or wording modified slightly to improve the survey tool. Most questions, however, have remained identical over the decade. Below is a brief summary of the questionnaire content on each of the topic areas.

Tobacco

Smoking frequency, intensity, history and cessation attempts; how cigarettes are obtained; smoking on school property; and smokeless tobacco and cigar use.

Alcohol

Drinking history, age at first use, current alcohol use, heavy drinking, drinking and driving, alcohol use prior to sex, and drinking on school property. The survey specifies to students that drinking alcohol “includes drinking beer, wine, wine coolers, and liquor such as rum, gin, vodka, or whiskey” and “does not include drinking a few sips of wine for religious purposes.”

Physical Activity

Intensity, frequency, and duration of exercise; strength training; physical education class; sporting teams; television viewing; and injury due to exercise or sports.

Suicide

Feeling sad and hopeless, considering suicide, planning suicide attempts, attempting suicide, and medical treatment due to a suicide attempt.

Violence

Physical fighting, weapons possession, injury as a result of physical fighting, weapon threats, school absence due to safety concerns, boyfriend/girlfriend abuse, and forced sexual intercourse.

Body Weight

Self-perceived weight, current weight loss/gain method, and body weight as it relates to exercise, diet, fasting, diet supplementation, and vomiting and laxative use.

Helmet and Seatbelt Use

Use of motorcycle helmets, bicycle helmets, and seatbelts.

Sexual Activity

Past sexual intercourse, number of sexual partners, age at first intercourse, alcohol and drug use, contraceptive use, history of pregnancy, and HIV/AIDS education.

Illegal Drugs

Use of marijuana, cocaine, inhalants, heroin, methamphetamine, steroids, and injected drugs, as well as marijuana use and drug acquisition on school property.

